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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
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REPORT

CD NO.

50X1-HUM

COUNTRY USSR

SUBJECT Sociological - Public health

DATE OF INFORMATION 1949

HOW PUBLISHED Weekly newspaper

DATE DIST. 5 Apr 1949

**WHERE
PUBLISHED** Moscow

NO. OF PAGES 2

DATE
PUBLISHED 2 Mar 1949

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

LANGUAGE Russian

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SOURCE Meditsinskiy Rabotnik, No 9 (321), 1949. (Information requested.)

HOSPITAL AND POLYCLINIC UNIFICATION PROGRESSES

Khar'kov

Unification of polyclinics and hospitals in Khar'kov is still incomplete. Of the 16 polyclinics only ten have been united. Industrial polyclinics and dispensaries have been left out of the unification program. Khar'kov polyclinics, after complete rebuilding, have only 75 percent of the bed space that was available in prewar days. Many industrial regions are without therapeutic hospitals, and several medical service networks are not operating efficiently due to poor cooperation from the Municipal Health Services.

The 9th Hospital has completed unification and has activated a therapeutic department with 35 beds. The 3d Hospital has united with a polyclinic located 2 kilometers from the Hospital. Only two therapeutic polyclinics, Polyclinics No 9 and 15, have united with hospitals. Many faults have developed in this unification program. As a result of the unification of Polyclinics No 4 and 8 there are now more professors and assistants than doctors on the staff. Polyclinic No 4, which united with two therapeutic clinics, now has 19 medical departments that serve some 6,500 people. In prewar days there were 26 medical departments assigned to this same area. Polyclinics No 2 and 3 united with therapeutic stations and have operated very efficiently.

Minsk

The unification plan is progressing favorably in this region; however, the unified operation of Polyclinic No 5 and the First Clinical Hospital is unsatisfactory. Treatment and examination are haphazard. The distribution of various specialists is unsatisfactory and several institutions find themselves overstaffed while neighboring institutions are very understaffed. The Ministry of Public Health, Belorussian SSR has indicated its willingness to overcome the unsatisfactory conditions in the very near future.

- 1 -
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Simferopol'

Local institutions serving children and expectant mothers have fared well in the unification program. The same cannot be said of the medical institutions charged with the duty of caring for adult patients. In Simferopol' there are four polyclinics, a 450-bed hospital, and seven dispensaries under Oblast jurisdiction. About a year and a half ago, it was suggested that for efficiency some of the medical facilities should be united with others. The plan was deliberately sabotaged, and none of the proposals were put into operation.

In October 1948, a meeting was held by the various medical organizations of the Simferopol' area to act on the decree published by the Medical Council USSR. The Local Council proposed the organization of an oncological and a dermato-venereological department in the Oblast hospital and giving responsibility for the whole enterprise over to the city. The city would then organize and operate the therapeutic and surgical departments. Four months have passed since this proposal was voted, and still nothing has been done.

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- 2 -

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